

Sheet 1 of Docket Number (Optional) Application Number Form PTO-1449 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) 10/642,918 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION Applicant Nicholas et al. Group Art Number Filing Date (Use several sheets if necessary) August 18, 2003 3712 OTHER DOCUMENTS PCT/US03/18295 International Search Report MM dated October 28, 2003 International Search Report EPO 0120262 dated December 20, 2000 International Search Report EPO 97112634 dated December 18, 1997 International Search Report EPO 98110977 dated September 25, 1998 International Search Report EPO 99118064 dated November 1, 2000 PCT/US01/02043 International Search Report dated July 2, 2001 International Search Report PCT/US02/00345 dated May 24, 2002 Date Considered Examiner /Michael Mendoza/ 07/06/2006 Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP §609; Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.

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| - | | U.S. PATEN | T DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | CI | ass | Subc | lass | Filing Date if Appropriate |
| MM | 5,891,160 | 04/06/99 | Williamson, IV et al. | | $ldsymbol{ldsymbol{ldsymbol{ldsymbol{eta}}}$ | | | |
| | 5,976,159 | 11/02/99 | Bolduc et al. | | | | | |
| | 6,471,713 | 10/29/02 | Vargas et al. | | | | | • • |
| V | 6,562,037 | 05/13/03 | Paton et al. | | | | | |
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| INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION | | | Docket Number (Optional) 2156CON4(203-228 | 7CON4) | Application 10/642,91 | Number 8 | | |
| | IN AN APPLICAT | TION | Applicant | Applicant Nicholas et al. | | | | |
| | (Use several sheets if no | ecessary) | Filing Date August 18, 200 | 03 | Group Art i | Number 3712 | | |
| | · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · · | U.S. PATEN | T DOCUMENTS | | | | | |
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| MM | 5,211,649 | 05/18/93 | Kohler et al. | | | | | |
| 1 | 5,725,537 | 03/10/98 | Green et al. | | | | | |
| | 5,779,718 | 07/14/98 | Green et al. | | | | | |
| | 6,726,697 | 04/27/04 | Nicholas et al. | | | | | |
| W | 6,769,594 | 08/03/04 | Orban, III | 7 (| (. | | | |
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Docket Number (Optional) 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) Application Number 10/642,918

Applicant

Nicholas et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date 8/18/2003 Group Art Number

3712

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| MM | 5,454,824 | 10/03/95 | Fontayne et al. | | - | |
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| MM | EP1088519 A1 | 04/04/01 | EP | | | | |
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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

Docket Number (Optional) 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) Application Number 10/642,918

Applicant

Nicholas et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date
August 18, 2003

Group Art Number

3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner | Document | | | T | T | Filing Date |
|----------|-----------|-----------|----------------------|-------|---------------|----------------|
| Initial | Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | if Appropriate |
| MM | 3,232,089 | 2/1/66 | P.B.SAMUELS ET AL. | | į. | |
| | 3,366,301 | 1/30/68 | R.F.MALLINA . | | | |
| | 3,519,187 | 7/7/70 | N.N.KAPITANOV ET AL. | | | |
| | 4,166,466 | 9/4/79 | JARVIK | | | |
| | 4,350,160 | 9/21/82 | KOLESOV ET AL. | | | |
| | 4,368,736 | 1/18/83 | KASTER | | | |
| | 4,872,874 | 10/10/89 | TAHERI | | | |
| | 4,930,674 | 6/5/90 | BARAK | | | |
| | 4,979,954 | 12/25/90 | GWATHMEY ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,025,779 | 6/25/91 | BUGGE | | 1 | |
| | 5,188,638 | 2/23/93 | TZAKIS | | : j: : i.: | |
| | 5,222,963 | 6/29/93 | BRINKERHOFF ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,234,447 | 8/10/93 | KASTER ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,282,810 | 2/1/94 | ALLEN ET AL. | | • | |
| | 5,314,436 | 5/24/94 | WILK | | | |
| | 5,346,501 | 9/13/94 | REGULA ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,354,304 | 10/11/94 | ALLEN ET AL. | | 1 | |
| | 5,366,462 | 11/22/94 | KASTER ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,403,333 | 4/4/95 | KASTER ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,403,338 | 4/4/95 | MILO | | 1 | |
| | 5,425,738 | 6/20/95 | GUSTAFSON ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,431,668 | 7/11/95 · | BURBANK, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,437,684 | 8/1/95 | CALABRESE ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,443,198 | 8/22/95 | VIOLA ET AL. | | | |
| V | 5,452,733 | 9/26/95 | STERMAN ET AL. | | | |
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Date Considered

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Sheet
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2156CON4(203-2287CON4)

Application Number 10/642,918

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION
IN AN APPLICATION

Nicholas et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date
August 18, 2003

Group Art Number 3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

Applicant

| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date if Appropriate |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|-----------------------|-------|----------|----------------------------|
| MM | 5,486,187 | 1/23/96 | SCHENCK | | | |
| 1 | 5,669,918 | 9/23/97 | BALAZS ET AL. | | * | |
| | 5,695,504 | 12/9/97 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,702,412 | 12/30/97 | POPOV ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,707,380 | 1/13/98 | HINCHLIFFE ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,709,335 | 1/20/98 | HECK | | | |
| | 5,732,872 | 3/31/98 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | • |
| | 5,797,934 | 8/25/98 | RYGAARD | | | |
| | 5,817,113 | 10/6/98 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,823,956 | 10/20/98 | ROTH ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,827,316 | 10/27/98 | YOUNG ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,833,698 | 11/10/98 | HINCHLIFFE ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,839,639 | 11/24/98 | SAUER ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,855,614 | 1/5/99 | STEVENS ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,881,943 | 3/16/99 | HECK ET AL. | | | |
| .] | 5,891,160 | 4/6/99 | WILLIAMSON, IV ET AL. | | | 4 |
| | 5,904,697 | 5/18/99 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | . 1 | 1 |
| | 5,916,226 | 6/29/99 | TOZZI | | t- 1 | |
| | 5,944,730 | 8/31/99 | NOBLES ET AL. | | , | |
| | 5,947,363 | 9/7/99 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,951,576 | 9/14/99 | WAKABAYASHI | | į | |
| | 5,957,363 | 9/28/99 | HECK | | | |
| | 5,957,879 | 9/28/99 | ROBERTS ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,961,481 | 10/5/99 | STERMAN ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,964,782 | 10/12/99 | LAFONTAINE ET AL. | | | |
| Ψ | 5,971,973 | 10/26/99 | PETERS | | | |

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Date Considered 07/06/2006

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Sheet 3 of

Docket Number (Optional) 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) Application Number 10/642,918

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

Applicant

Nicholas et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date Group Art Number
August 18, 2003 3731

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

| Examiner Initial | Document Number | Date | Name | Class | Subclass | Filing Date if Appropriate |
|---------------------|--------------------|----------|----------------------|-------|----------|-------------------------------|
| MM | 5,972,030 | 10/26/99 | GARRISON ET AL. | | | |
| 1 | 5,976,159 | 11/2/99 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | |
| | 5,993,468 | 11/30/99 | RYGAARD | | | |
| | 6,015,416 | 1/18/00 | STEFANCHIK ET AL. | | | <u> </u> |
| | 6,024,748 | 2/15/00 | MANZO ET AL. | | | · i |
| | 6,030,395 | 2/29/00 | NASH ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,036,705 | 3/14/00 | NASH ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,056,762 | 5/2/00 | NASH ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,066,144 | 5/23/00 | WOLF ET AL. | | | 1 |
| | 6,080,173 | 6/27/00 | WILLIAMSON IV ET AL. | | | 1 |
| | 6,083,234 | 2/23/99 | NICHOLAS ET AL. | | | 1. |
| | 6,110,187 | 8/29/00 | DONLON | | | |
| | 6,171,319 | 1/9/01 | NOBLES ET AL. | | | <u> </u> |
| | 6,171,321 | 1/9/01 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,176,413 | 1/23/01 | HECK ET AL. | | | ļ. |
| | 6,176,864 | 1/23/01 | CHAPMAN | | | |
| | 6,183,486 | 2/6/01 | SNOW ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,187,019 | 2/13/01 | STEFANCHIK ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,187,020 | 2/13/01 | ZEGDI ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,187,022 | 2/13/01 | ALEXANDER, JR. ET AL | • | | |
| | 6,190,397 | 2/20/01 | SPENCE ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,190,590 | 2/20/01 | RANDALL ET AL. | | | i |
| | 6,193,734 | 2/27/01 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | , |
| | 6,197,042 | 3/6/01 | GINN ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,206,913 | 3/27/01 | YENCHO ET AL. | | | |
| V | 6,231,506 | 5/15/01 | HU ET AL. | | | · |

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INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION

Docket Number (Optional) 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) Application Number 10/642,918

Applicant

Nicholas et al.

(Use several sheets if necessary)

Filing Date
August 18, 2003

Group Art Number

U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS

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| MM | 6,234,995 | 5/22/01 | PEACOCK, III | | | |
| | 6,241,741 | 6/5/01 | DUHAYLONGSOD ET AL | | | |
| | 6,241,742 | 6/5/01 | SPENCE ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,241,743 | 6/5/01 | LEVIN ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,248,117 | 6/19/01 | BLATTER | | | |
| | 6,253,984 | 7/3/01 | HECK ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,254,615 | 7/3/01 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,254,617 | 7/3/01 | SPENCE ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,280,460 | 8/28/01 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | · |
| | 6,332,468 | 12/25/01 | BENETTI | | | |
| | 6,338,712 | 1/15/02 | SPENCE ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,346,074 | 2/12/02 | ROTH | | | ; |
| | 6,350,252 | 2/26/02 | RAY ET AL. | | | * |
| | 6,361,543 | 3/26/02 | CHIN ET AL. | | 3 | |
| | 6,371,965 | 4/16/02 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,387,105 | 5/14/02 | GIFFORD, III ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,391,039 | 5/21/02 | NICHOLAS ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,401,721 | 6/11/02 | MAGINOT | | | • |
| | 6,440,146 | 8/27/02 | NICHOLAS ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,443,965 | 9/3/02 | GIFFORD III, ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,450,390 | 9/17/02 | HECK ET AL. | | | |
| | 6,451,034 | 9/17/02 | GIFFORD III, ET AL. | | | |
| V | 6,461,365 | 10/8/02 | BOLDUC ET AL. | | | |
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6 Sheet 5 of Docket Number (Optional) Application Number 10/642,918 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) ORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION Applicant Nicholas et al. Group Art Number (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date August 18, 2003 U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS Filing Date Examiner Document Class Subclass if Appropriate Number Date Name Initial **DES 276,650** 12/4/84 **GREEN ET AL** FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS Translation Document Class **Subclass** Yes No Date Country Number MM WO88/01486 03/10/88 PCT ١ WO95/15715 06/15/95 PCT WO95/17127 06/29/95 **PCT** WO95/35065 12/28/95 PCT WO97/40754 11/06/97 **PCT** PCT WO99/11178 03/11/99 WO00/69343 11/23/00 **PCT** 07/26/01 **PCT** WO01/52748 1,518,083 FR 10/22/99 FR 2,777,446 GB935,490 08/28/63 GB ì EPO 384647A1 02/15/90 **EPO EPO** EPO 594004A1 04/27/94 03/22/95 **EPO** EPO 643946A EPO 656191 A2 06/07/95 **EPO** 01/28/98 **EPO** EPO 820724A ä **EPO** EPO 820725 B1 07/23/97 EPO 885595 A1 12/23/98 **EPO** EP 1088519A 04/04/01 **EPO** OTHER DOCUMENTS International Search Report - EPO 0120262 MM International Search Report - EPO 97112634 International Search Report - EPO 98110977 International Search Report - EPO 99118064 International Search Report - PCT/US01/02043 Date Considered Examiner /Michael Mendoza/

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Form PTO-1447 PADEMARY INFOF Sheet 6 of Docket Number (Optional) Application Number 2156CON4(203-2287CON4) 10/642,918 INFORMATION DISCLOSURE CITATION IN AN APPLICATION Applicant Nicholas et al. Group Art Number (Use several sheets if necessary) Filing Date August 18, 2003 3731 **OTHER DOCUMENTS** International Search Report PCT/US02/00345 MM Information Booklet for: LIGACLIP, Ligating Clips, Appliers & Removers For security in Ligation, Ethicon, Inc., 1982 Information Booklet for: Deep Surgery Advantage-Dramatic New Access Plus Automatic-Feed in Vessel Ligation, Hemoclip ® automatic ligating clip system, Edward Weck & Company, Inc. Sep 1996 Information Booklet for: Auto Suture® Premium Surgliclip™ Titanium disposable automatic clip appliers, United States Surgical Corporation, 1981. ı li : || II Date Considered Examiner /Michael Mendoza/ Examiner: Initial if citation considered, whether or nor citation is in conformance with MPEP \$609; Draw line through

citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to the applicant.